STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950 **ELECTRONIC MAIL**

E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov www.ct.gov/csc

February 6, 2013

Lee Hoffman, Esq. Pullman & Comley, LLC 90 State House Square Hartford, CT 06103-3702

RE: **PETITION NO. 1056** - GRE 314 East Lyme, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed construction and operation of a 5.0 MW Solar Photovoltaic Renewable Energy Generating Project located on Grassy Hill Road and Walnut Hill Road, East Lyme, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Hoffman:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) requests your responses to the enclosed questions no later than February 21, 2013. To help expedite the Council's review, please file individual responses as soon as they are available.

Please forward an original and 15 copies to this office and a pdf copy. In accordance with the State Solid Waste Management Plan, the Council is requesting that all filings be submitted on recyclable paper, primarily regular weight white office paper. Please avoid using heavy stock paper, colored paper, and metal or plastic binders and separators. Fewer copies of bulk material may be provided as appropriate.

Yours very truly,

Linda Roberts **Executive Director**

c: Michael Silvestrini, GRE 314 East Lyme LLC Council Members Parties and Intervenors



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Petition 1056: GRE 314 East Lyme LLC East Lyme, Connecticut Pre-Hearing Interrogatories, Set One

- 1. What were the results of GRE's mailing of notices to abutting property owners? If some receipts were not returned, describe any additional effort to provide notification to these abutters.
- 2. Did GRE consult with town officials in Montville (within 2,500 feet of site) regarding the proposal? If so, when and what were their concerns?
- 3. When was the legal notice of its intent to file this petition published in *The Day*?
- 4. How did GRE become aware of the site property?
- 5. Did GRE investigate any other properties as potential locations for this project? If so, identify these properties.
- 6. What were the factors that led GRE to choose the site property over any other properties it may have considered?
- 7. Provide a cost estimate for the proposed project, itemized by component cost, construction cost, and interconnection cost.
- 8. Provide depictions on aerial imagery of the following:
 - a) Property boundaries for the four properties that comprise the project site;
 - b) Environmental features that will be altered by the installation (forest to be cleared, fields to be utilized, vernal pool 100-foot and 750 foot envelopes); and
 - c) A site layout including panel array, access road, detention basins, embankments, and interconnection point.
- 9. In regards to the facility schematics on page 15, were the drawings based on a view from a specific property? If so, which property? Have there been any photographic simulations prepared from area vantage points? If so, please submit.
- 10. Has there been any correspondence with native American tribes in regards to cultural/archeological impacts of the proposed facility?
- 11. What are the habitat requirements of the Harry's elfin butterfly?
- 12. Referring to page 25 of the natural resource report, why are low populations of the box turtle expected in southeastern Connecticut?
- 13. Why does the original RFP submittal to DEEP (Tab B, p. 9) depict the site property as consisting of only open field areas?
- 14. What is the efficiency of the photovoltaic module technology that would be employed by GRE at the proposed project? Does efficiency decrease over time?



- 15. Would the angles of the project's solar panels be adjusted during the year to maintain optimal alignment with the sun's changing path?
- 16. Approximately what percentage of the proposed project's maximum possible output would occur during those times of the year when Connecticut normally experiences its peak demand for electricity?
- 17. Has GRE conducted a Shading Analysis of the project property? If so, provide the results.
- 18. Define the term "capacity factor" used on Application page 10.
- 19. Describe how the project would be decommissioned at the end of its useful life.
- 20. Is there an existing farm road on the property that traverses the wetland corridor, providing access to the fields on the eastern portion of the property?